



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 29 January 2002 (05.02)
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NOTE

from:	Presidency
to:	Working Party on Terrorism
Subject:	Presentation of a Presidency initiative for the introduction of a standard form for exchanging information on terrorist incidents

Representatives and experts from law enforcement and intelligence agencies responsible for combating terrorism in each Member State meet in the Working Party on Terrorism for the purpose of improving cooperation between such agencies.

In the course of its proceedings, the Working Party has noticed a gradual increase, at various European Union summits and other events, in violence and criminal damage orchestrated by radical extremist groups, clearly terrorising society. This has attracted widespread media coverage and alarmed the Union's citizens.

These acts are the work of a loose network, hiding behind various social fronts, by which we mean organisations taking advantage of their lawful status to aid and abet the achievement of terrorist groups' aims. Such clear manipulation poses a serious present threat, liable to increase substantially in the very near future.

With the aim of helping to prevent such situations arising at summits and other events arranged by various international organisations as well as the Community, the Spanish Presidency proposes the adoption of a **Council Decision introducing a standard form for exchanging information on terrorist incidents**. This would provide a very helpful tool in preventing and, where appropriate, prosecuting violent urban youthful radicalism, which is increasingly being used as a cat's-paw by terrorist groups in order to achieve their criminal aims.

The form would be used to exchange such information as is considered necessary or desirable by participating Member States and, if appropriate, Europol.

As a swift, secure communications system for exchanging information on such groups, we would suggest that use be made of the BDL network, with its proven effectiveness and security.

The above proposal is being submitted to delegations for consideration.

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